MARKED VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS - OZ 50728

3. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], where the phyllosilicate prior to its hydrophobicization has a cation -exchange capacity of at least 50 millequivalents per 100 g.

4. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], where in the hydrophobicized phyllosilicates the metal ions have been at least to some extent exchanged for organic or inorganic cations which have at least one organic radical.

5. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], where the copolyester contains at least three components selected from the class consisting of components A and B, and, if desired, one or more other components C, where component A comprises at least one dicarboxylic acid or an ester-forming derivative or a mixture of these, component B comprises at least one diol component, and component C comprises tri- and polyols, di- and polyamines, amino alcohols, hydroxycarboxylic acids, aminocarboxylic acids, tri- and polycarboxylic acids, bisoxazolines and ioscyanates.

7. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], where the content of other additives is from 0.1 to 70% by weight, based on the content of copolyester.

8. A process for preparing molding compositions as claimed in claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 7], where at least one copolyester and at least one hydrophobicized phyllosilicate are mixed, and are homogenized with softening or melting, at least of the copolyester.

9. A process for preparing molding compositions as claimed in claim 1 [any one of

MARKED VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS - OZ 50728

claims 1 to 7], where at least some of the components constituting the copolyester are mixed and/or homogenized with the hydrophobicized phyllosilicate, the remainder of the components are added, and the resultant mixture is reacted, forming a copolyester comprising the phyllosilicate.

10. A molding, a film or a fiber obtainable from molding compositions as claimed in claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 9].

CLAIMS AS FILED - OZ 50728

1. A biodegradable thermoplastic molding composition comprising
   a) at least one biodegradable thermoplastic copolyester, and
   b) based on the total weight of the thermoplastic molding composition, from 0.01 to 15% by weight of at least one hydrophobicized phyllosilicate.
2. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1, where the distance between the layers in the hydrophobicized phyllosilicate in the molding composition is from 5 to 200 Å.
3. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1, where the phyllosilicate prior to its hydrophobicization has a cation-exchange capacity of at least 50 millequivalents per 100 g.
4. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1, where in the hydrophobicized phyllosilicates the metal ions have been at least to some extent exchanged for organic or inorganic cations which have at least one organic radical.
5. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1, where the copolyester contains at least three components selected from the class consisting of components A and B, and, if desired, one or more other components C, where component A comprises at least one dicarboxylic acid or an ester-forming derivative or a mixture of these, component B comprises at least one diol component, and component C comprises tri- and polyols, di- and polyamines, amino alcohols, hydroxycarboxylic acids, aminocarboxylic acids, tri- and polycarboxylic acids, bisoxazolines and ioscyanates.
6. A molding composition as claimed in claim 5, in which the copolyester contains, as component A, from 30 to 95 mol% of at least one aliphatic dicarboxylic acid

CLAIMS AS FILED - OZ 50728

and from 5 to 70 mol% of at least one aromatic dicarboxylic acids, or ester-forming derivatives of these dicarboxylic acids, or mixtures of the dicarboxylic acids and their ester-forming derivatives, and, as component B, at least one diol component selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkanediols and C_5-C_{10} cycloalkanediols and mixtures of these.

7. A molding composition as claimed in claim 1, where the content of other additives is from 0.1 to 70% by weight, based on the content of copolyester.

8. A process for preparing molding compositions as claimed in claim 1, where at least one copolyester and at least one hydrophobicized phyllosilicate are mixed, and are homogenized with softening or melting, at least of the copolyester.

9. A process for preparing molding compositions as claimed in claim 1, where at least some of the components constituting the copolyester are mixed and/or homogenized with the hydrophobicized phyllosilicate, the remainder of the components are added, and the resultant mixture is reacted, forming a copolyester comprising the phyllosilicate.

10. A molding, a film or a fiber obtainable from molding compositions as claimed in claim 1.